

OWNERSHIP OF WATER WORKS

Argument Against the City Plunging Into Municipal Socialism

PUBLIC SERVICE QUESTION IS DISCUSSED

Dangerous Kinds of Taxation—Statistics Are Sometimes Misleading—The Duty of a Government—Proposed Ordinance.

OMAHA, Jan. 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: An intelligent inquiry would be, What is the occasion for the hasty, ill-considered, inconsiderate effort to plunge this city into municipal socialism and communism by demanding the purchase and operation of the water works system and other public utilities by the city at this time?...

Shades of all the gods at once! Think of making a profit of ourselves! Think of the butcher, the baker and the grocery-keeper having himself alone for a customer, making a profit of himself and the entire electrically-facilitating himself under the comforting feeling that he is getting his supplies a little cheaper!

In the councils of the city, from the mayor to the Commercial club, no voice is heard giving a reason or justification for plunging this city into municipal socialism and communism—a foolish fancy, an economic fallacy and a damnable destructive policy.

But, says the surface-thinker, the city can make a profit. There can be no profit unless the individual, the owner, pays a profit over and above the cost of the product.

Dangerous Kind of Taxation. This, then, is a tax upon the individual. It is the most invidious and dangerous kind of taxation, because it is indirect—a tax upon consumption, unequal and unjust.

The economic right of a government to do for its own account any industrial service which it can cause to be done at less cost to taxpayers or users of the service than by contracting with individuals or corporations is denied.

Our city officials and business men, acting on the basis of expediency and not of right, are leading their fellow citizens by the nose to a doctrine that must inevitably lead to the destruction of property, to the paralyzation of industry and progress, to the demoralization of the individual and the demoralization of the nation.

Statistics Misleading. They quote statistics and say that the service is cheaper under municipal ownership. Statistics are misleading, unreliable and inadequate. All the elements of cost are not included and the varied conditions are not considered.

SLEUTHS STILL ON SCENT

Committee in Quest of Witnesses Other Than Hired Agents

NO ATTACK IS SO FAR MADE ON COUNCIL

City's Legislative Body Up to Present Enjoys Immunity from the Investigation—Important Testimony Today.

The sittings of the school board investigating committee were held yesterday in order that certain evidence might be made public.

An important witness against Member Cowie, who has not yet appeared, is H. B. Dodge of Chicago, western agent for the Wilson remedia blind, Mr. Dodge has been in the city for some time waiting the convenience of the committee, but has not been called up to this time, owing to the detail with which his relationship with Cowie has already been related.

The rumor which has circulated about the strike for several days that the Commercial club members behind the investigation intend to extend the inquiry to the doings of the city council and other official bodies has so far no foundation in fact.

It has been stated on the authority of the county attorney that Architect McDonald would contribute some \$10,000 to the city for providing the water service.

NOT UNANIMOUS ON BURKLEY. Jacksonian Democrats Hunting a Man Who Can Get Patriotic League Support.

The democrats of Omaha have by no means settled upon Frank Burkley as their candidate for mayor.

HYDOCK IS STILL IN JAIL. South Omaha Policeman Fails to Find Friends to Pay Fine Imposed by Judge Fawcett.

LOST CONTROL OF ELEVATOR. Inexperienced Operator Gives Prominent Local Passenger Men a Rapid Downward Ride.

IN HANDS OF A RECEIVER

Grain Growers' Mutual Hail Association is in Trouble.

J. J. EVERINGHAM IS PLACED IN CHARGE

Officers Claim They Have Resorted to Receivership in Order to Secure the Payment of the Losses.

Upon the application of counsel for the Grain Growers' Mutual Hail Association Judge Dickinson has appointed J. J. Everingham receiver for that institution, which has been in existence for about a year and which has had more or less trouble in the course of its late account of the independent some of its members to pay the assessments.

MORTGAGES HIS FURNITURE. Phoenix Thus Covers His Shortage—New Developments Promised by Postoffice Inspector.

Investigation is still in progress in the case of Richard Phoenix of postoffice station B, for embezzlement. Postmaster Crow and Inspector Sinclair spent several hours Wednesday at station B, which is now temporarily in charge of Charles Grown.

CITY'S SHARE IN GAS RECEIPTS. Yearly Revenue from Franchise Shows Material Increase in Last Six Years.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION. Government Wants Men in Several Places Requiring Technical Knowledge.

POSTOFFICE VAULT IS ROBBED. Nearly Three Hundred Dollars Disappears Over Night from the Park Avenue Station.

SAME DATE AS DEMOCRATS. Silver Republicans Fix City Convention for February 10 and Talk for Fusion.

BROKER SIPE IS MISSING. Deputy Sheriff Fails to Find Accused South Omaha Real Estate Dealer Who is Wanted in Court.

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought has borne the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher, and has been made under his personal supervision for over 30 years.

Just-as-good are but Experiments, and endanger the health of Children—Experience against Experiment.

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In Use For Over 30 Years.

THE CASTORIA COMPANY, 23 MADISON STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

of this court. The matter was referred to the county attorney for action, and an effort was made to bring Sipe back.

BABEL OF TONGUES IN COURT. Italian, Swede and Negro Attempt to Clear Themselves of Charges of Coat Stealing.

Marvelous Chamberlain Figures. 109,403 cases of G. H. Mumm's Extra Dry were imported in 1899, being 72,495 cases more than any other brand.

Keep Your Head Clear. And free from headaches with Wright's Paragon Headache and Neuralgia Cure.

So Many People. Have headaches that are due to the over taxed eyes—Eye helps that help and relieve are the kind we have been searching for.

THE ALOE & PENFOLD CO., Leading Scientific Opticians, 1408 FARNAM, OMAHA, OPPOSITE PAXTON HOTEL.

Mr. Frederick Hatter. The Hatter, The Leading Hat Man of the West, 120 South 15th Street.

Do You Dance? Our new composition, the "Value Lullaby" by Van Alstyne, bids fair to become as popular as was his former hit, the "Hula-Hula Cakewalk."

A. HOSPE, Music and Art, 1513 Douglas.

MORTGAGES HIS FURNITURE

Phoenix Thus Covers His Shortage—New Developments Promised by Postoffice Inspector.

Investigation is still in progress in the case of Richard Phoenix of postoffice station B, for embezzlement.

Asked if there were any new developments Inspector Sinclair said: "There is nothing for publication yet. We may be ready to make public the result of our investigations this evening, but until we are ready to act we can say nothing."

It has developed that in order to raise the money to make good the shortage Phoenix mortgaged his furniture. He feared that he would be checked up, and on Monday had his application for the loan made out.

Attention is called to the fact as shown by the application for a receiver and the statement of the officers above given that while something like \$61,000 of the \$120,000 assessment appears to have been collected, not a dollar of it has ever been paid out toward meeting the losses.

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Drumming Up Trade. That's what Drexel L. Shooman has been doing with the new armored cruiser for boys' wear—a regular shoe-bell reducer—patent steel eyelets or horsehoes inlaid in the soles and heels that makes them high impossible to wear out—until these little armored cruisers came into port it was a sure enough expense in shoeing the boys—\$2.00 for all sizes, just so they are a regular size—no wires or metal and sang the carter of the street.

Drexel Shoe Co., Omaha's Up-to-date Shoe Makers, 1419 FARNAM STREET.

Advertisement for Castoria medicine, featuring the brand name and a signature.

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Advertisement for Gail Borden Eagle Brand Condensed Milk, featuring an illustration of a milk can.